

IN THE SPECIFICATION

ne After line 17, insert a new paragraph:

e1 --Fig. 1A is a schematic representation intended to illustrate the spring/mass vibratory force coupler according to the invention in cross section, in an embodiment having a first spring, and a second spring independent of the first spring and having a damper.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

e2 ~~*str 1* Claim 1 (three times amended). Spring/mass vibratory force coupler with variable damping and variable spring stiffness for coupling masses to a reference mass, comprising a first mass coupled to a second mass via a first spring and a second spring, independent of the first spring, arranged in parallel, a damper arranged between the second spring and the first mass wherein a damping function of the damper may be varied based on an application of a voltage to an electrorheological or magnetorheological fluid contained therein.~~

Rule 1.24
Claim 2 (three times amended). Device according to Claim 1, further comprising at least one absorber mass connected to the first mass by means of a first spring/damper element being a combination of a spring with a damper based on an electrorheological or magnetorheological fluid, which is connectable to a voltage source.

e3 Claim 4 (three times amended). Device according to Claim 2, further comprising at least one auxiliary mass which is connected to the absorber mass by means of a second spring/damper element being a combination of a spring with a damper based on an electrorheological or magnetorheological fluid, which is connectable to a voltage source.